

honored the service and sacrifice of our World War II veterans and launched millions of families on a course to prosperity.

Last week, this House supported a new GI bill for the 21st century that will provide the same hopes and dreams to our troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This bill is long overdue because the current GI bill fails to cover the full cost of a public education. The new GI bill restores the promise of a full 4-year college scholarship for veterans, and at a time when many of our troops are in the midst of multiple redeployments, we must keep our commitment to provide them the very best educational opportunities when their service is completed.

This bill is a promise to our veterans today and tomorrow that their service to this country will continue to be honored.

MOTHER NATURE IS NUMBER ONE OIL POLLUTER

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the number one polluter of oil off our coast is Mother Nature. Crude oil seeps to the surface, and Mother Nature causes 62 percent of the crude oil pollution off our coast.

So the way we resolve this problem and get even with Mother Nature is we ought to drill where Mother Nature has that oil, take it out from the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico, and use it to take care of America.

But there is a problem with that. We don't drill anywhere except off my native Texas coast, off Louisiana, Mississippi, and part of Alabama. The rest of this, where it is red on this chart, is prohibited.

It is time for Congress to take the handcuffs off of this inaction and allow leasing off these shores.

Now they say that the oil companies have enough leases; why don't they drill there. The problem is when they drill there, they get a dry hole. And common sense says when they get a dry hole, they quit drilling even though they must continue to pay for those leases.

So it is time to let America take care of America. It is time to let our oil go and take care of ourselves, otherwise this red area that we see here will remain off-limits, and it should be drilled for the crude oil to take care of our country.

And that's just the way it is.

NO ROOM FOR RECKLESS TALK

(Ms. HARMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have often said that the terrorists won't check our party registration before they blow us up. Security has been my

focus since coming to Congress seven terms ago. I have served on almost every security committee here, including 8 years on the Intelligence Committee.

Our security policy must not be partisan, and that is why last week's compromise on FISA was so meaningful. And that is why Charlie Black's comments in an upcoming Fortune magazine interview that another terrorist attack on U.S. soil "certainly would be a big advantage" to his candidate and that the Bhutto assassination "helped us" were so outrageous.

Yes, he and Senator McCain have apologized; and they should have. Another attack here or the assassination of a democratic political party leader anywhere harms all of us.

Seven years after 9/11, Osama bin Laden is still at large. The Taliban is resurgent in Afghanistan, and young kids still want to be suicide bombers. These are tough challenges, and there is no room for reckless talk.

OIL EVERYWHERE, NOT A DROP TO DRILL

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, there is an old saying that goes: Water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink.

Well, what we have in the United States is oil, oil everywhere, and not a drop to drill. That is the slogan of the Congress led by our friends on the other side of the aisle.

If you look at this map, you will see we have made off-limits some of the most potentially productive oil reserves and natural gas reserves not only in this country but in the world. It makes no sense whatsoever.

This week, instead of us addressing the problem this way, our friends on the other side of the aisle are going to bring us sue, sue, sue laws. That is, we are going to not drill our way out of this problem, we are going to sue our way out of the problem. The American people understand that's not the way to get us going.

Let's use American ingenuity, American creativity and technology to safely drill off our shores here in the United States so that we can become energy independent.

As we are coming up close to July 4, let's strike a blow for independence. Let's do something meaningful.

LEFT OVER THE BARREL

(Mr. OLIVER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Speaker, the cornerstone of the Bush-McCain plan to lower gas prices is to open every acre of the Outer Continental Shelf between 50 and 200 miles offshore to oil leasing, drilling and production. That plan is a sure-fire failure.

You can bet your house and your children's college education as well that the most promising areas would be leased for long terms at bargain prices, but there is no guarantee that those new leases would be producing a drop of oil even 10 years from now. That's been the history.

The Minerals Management Service estimates 66 billion barrels of oil are recoverable on already-leasable areas of the continental shelf. Sixty-six billion barrels equals 10 years of America's need without any foreign oil at all. Yet less than a quarter of the area actually leased is in production. The oil companies are simply banking their cheap, long-term leases for future higher prices and profits. And we, the Congress and the country, will really be left over the barrel.

EXPLORE AVAILABLE ENERGY RESOURCES

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, let's talk about being put over a barrel of oil. In 2001, a barrel cost \$23. When this majority came in, it was at \$58, and now it is over \$136. The trend line is bad.

I don't understand why we want to limit our ability to explore all the available energy resources. Why not go after the leases we have. Why not open new leases. Why not go in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Here is the OCS, off-limits by our mandate. We did it. The Congress said we can't go on the west coast. The Congress said we can't go on the east coast, and the Congress said we can't go on the east gulf. That is foolish at today's prices.

Let's use America's natural resource of coal. In Illinois alone, we have as much Btu as Saudi Arabia has in oil. Let's encourage coal-to-liquid technologies. Let's use solar and wind, and all of the above energy sources, man-made energy resources with American energy and U.S. jobs.

TITLE IX IS SLAM DUNK

(Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, a player dunked in a Sunday night basketball game. Most Americans might not think that's news, but when you tell them the player was the WNBA's Candace Parker, only the second woman to dunk in WNBA history, you get a different reaction.

Parker's slam dunk is just one more sign that title IX is a slam dunk. At its core, title IX is a one-sentence law that bans sex discrimination in Federally funded education programs. Title IX tore down the quotas in law and medical schools that would often limit the enrollment of women to 15 per year.

Today, more women than men are attending college. And in law schools,

women are now the majority. In 1970, only one out of 27 high school girls played varsity sports. Today that figure is two in five, and these girls are reaping the benefits that come from sports: lower rates of substance abuse, unintended pregnancies, breast cancer, and osteoporosis.

Title IX has made it possible for women to pursue any career they want. I am excited to see what today's girls and young women will do with the opportunities title IX will provide for their futures.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO STOP LIMITING OPTIONS

(Mr. SHUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today the average price of gas in the Ninth Congressional District of Pennsylvania is over \$4 a gallon. It has had a dramatic impact on families and small businesses across my district and across Pennsylvania.

The American people know that drilling isn't the only answer, which my colleagues on the other side of the aisle continue to say, but they do know it is a huge part of the solution. They also know that it will have the greatest impact in the shortest period of time. It is a real solution.

The American people also know that we can explore and drill in places like ANWR and off the coast of the United States. We can do it in environmentally safe ways and extract tremendous amounts of energy in those parts of the world.

The American people also know that this Congress has done nothing, has done nothing to solve the problem at the pump, has done nothing to help this economy with solving our oil and energy crisis that we face today. This Congress needs to act. We need to stop talking and limiting our options available to us. The American people are crying out for us to solve their problem and help them and help this economy grow.

BIG OIL: USE IT OR LOSE IT

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the American people are looking for real energy solutions that will bring down prices at the pump. Unfortunately, all they are getting from Washington Republicans are more of the same old policies that are actually responsible for the high gas prices in the first time.

The Republican solution is to open up more of our pristine land and our ocean to oil drilling. They neglect to say that Big Oil already has leases for 68 million acres that, for whatever reason, Big Oil refuses to explore. Experts estimate that these 68 million acres of leased land could produce about 4.8 million barrels of oil which would near-

ly double our Nation's total production.

Why should we give Big Oil access to more of our land and water when they refuse to drill on 68 million acres they already have? And if drilling is indeed the answer to high gas prices, as my Republican friends always claim, why aren't they demanding that Big Oil start drilling on these lands?

Mr. Speaker, this week House Republicans will have an opportunity to act on their rhetoric by supporting Democratic legislation that tells Big Oil to either use it or lose it.

PROPERTY OWNERS AT RISK

(Mr. SULLIVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was the third anniversary of the Supreme Court's 2005 decision in the *Kelo v. City of New London* case.

In that decision, a divided Supreme Court ruled that the government may take people's homes and bulldoze them to make way for strip malls or other private development in order to increase tax revenue.

The negative effects of this far-reaching decision places all private property owners at risk. No property owner is safe if the government decides that their land would serve a better purpose and be an economic gain if something bigger and more taxable were in its place.

To combat these unjust property takings, I introduced H.R. 6219 to protect the rights of the private property owners. With this bill, all Americans now have the tools they need to fight unjust property takings and defend their homes and small businesses.

The government has overstepped its bounds in taking private property from people. It has also done the wrong thing in not allowing us to drill for oil and gas in America. It is very important that we get it in our own backyard. A lot of people on the Democratic side talk about alternative energy sources, and that is good. And we as Republicans believe in that. But also, we believe we need to get energy right here in our own backyard as well as we need to develop these technologies.

□ 1030

HONORING THE LAKE HIGHLANDS EXCHANGE CLUB AND LAKE HIGHLANDS MILITARY MOMS

(Mr. HENSARLING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Lake Highlands Exchange Club and Rhonda Russell, founder of the Lake Highlands Military Moms. Rhonda formed Military Moms so that mothers could meet once a month to exchange stories, updates, and photographs of their children serving our Nation in uniform overseas.

Recently, these two groups joined together to ensure that our servicemen and women received the local recognition they deserved for their heroic efforts. For example, they created posters for display throughout the Lake Highlands Community featuring photographs of 54 men and women serving our Nation in uniform. Additionally, they ensure that every returning servicemember is publicly honored at the Exchange Club meetings.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I'm honored to be able to recognize the Lake Highlands Exchange Club and Lake Highlands Military Moms for their continued efforts in honoring our heroes in uniform.

WHAT IS CONGRESS DOING TO LOWER GAS PRICES?

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, my constituents, almost every single one, want to know what Congress is doing to lower the gas prices. Here is part of a letter from Matthew, a Boy Scout, from Winston-Salem, North Carolina: The problem I'm talking about how the gas prices are so high. If gas prices keep going up, we won't be able to go on vacation, we won't be able to go to the grocery store, we won't be able to go to church.

This is completely unacceptable for my constituents and also unacceptable for the constituents represented by my friends on the other side of the aisle. Unfortunately, it's because of the out-of-touch Democrat leadership that Congress has done nothing to combat record gas prices. Democrats pledged to deliver low gas prices well before they even took control of Congress promising a "commonsense" plan to lower gas prices. And here we are with national gas prices at \$4 a gallon.

While Democrats only offer more of the same—broken promises in tax increases—House Republicans are committed to pursuing solutions that will help alleviate the pain at the pump and grow the American economy.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 87, nays 299, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 441]

YEAS—87

Akin	Bachus	Bartlett (MD)
Alexander	Barrett (SC)	Biggert